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German Embassy has shown Department report of 17 November meeting Kroll, FEDREP Ambassador to Moscow and Gromyko at which Kroll presented FEDREP reply to Soviet note of September 18. Summary of report follows:

Kroll underlined FEDREP's view that unilateral termination of Four-Power status in Berlin would be a breach of valid international law. FEDREP hoped that Soviets would refrain from taking action proposed since such action would create grave situation.

Gromyko replied that FEDREP reproaches should not be addressed to Soviet Union but to three Western Powers who had been in violation of ~~the~~ Potsdam and Berlin ~~Agreements~~ for sometime past and wanted to maintain ~~the~~ present status Berlin for selfish reasons. In accordance with Khrushchev's declaration, ~~the~~ Soviet Union would cede to ~~the~~ GDR by unilateral action and without further negotiation with ~~the~~ three Western Powers ~~the~~ rights to which ~~the~~ Soviet Union

is

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is entitled under ~~the~~ Berlin Agreements and this was ~~the~~ final decision of ~~the~~ Soviet Union.

Kroll repeated that such action in ~~the~~ view of ~~the~~ FEDREP would create an extremely grave situation and he considered himself bound to point this out to Gromyko expressly once more.

Kroll reports his view that after these unmistakable declarations by Gromyko there can no longer be doubt that ~~the~~ Soviet Union has finally resolved to transfer to ~~the~~ GDR its rights under ~~the~~ Berlin Agreements but in ~~the~~ practicable implementation of this step ~~the~~ Soviet Union will probably proceed very carefully in order not to create a complicated situation. He expects that at first ~~the~~ Soviet Union will test ~~the~~ Western Powers' readiness to enter into direct negotiations with ~~the~~ GDR in less important specific cases.

As concerns ~~the~~ note which Kroll handed Gromyko, Kroll stressed ~~the~~ far-reaching accommodation shown by ~~the~~ FEDREP to ~~the~~ Soviet attitude and ~~the~~ FEDREP's hope that ~~the~~ Soviet Government would do everything to make possible ~~the~~ establishment of ~~the~~ Four-Power group. Gromyko said ~~the~~ note would be carefully studied and an official reply given. He went on to express regret that ~~the~~ FEDREP found itself unable to accept ~~the~~ Soviet proposals of September 18. Gromyko considered that ~~the~~ German reply did not show any material change from ~~the~~ previous attitude. Kroll insisted that ~~the~~ note in fact did show a change from previous attitude.

Kroll believes ~~the~~ Soviet Government will carefully examine ~~the~~ note but at ~~the~~ very best will offer new counter proposals. He reports that ~~the~~ atmosphere of ~~the~~ meeting was serious but not unfriendly.

Reulies (FDR)

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